

13. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM

Many of the goals, objectives and recommendations found in the Comprehensive Plan can only come about through the Capital Improvements Program. This is the primary mechanism for long range planning and funding of various public facilities and improvements such as schools, roads, public sewer and water, and parks.

The Code of Virginia authorizes the governing body (i.e., Board of Supervisors and at their direction, the Planning Commission) to “prepare and revise annually a capital improvements program based on the comprehensive plan of the county... for a period not to exceed the ensuing five years.” The Capital Improvements Plan process allows the County to forecast revenues and capital expenditures through the planning process rather than an ad hoc or crisis situation. This facilitates a more rational approach which allows the County to correlate projects with financial capabilities and anticipated growth.

The following is an abbreviated list of Capital Improvements for FY05 – FY09, along with a brief description of each program. The Capital Improvements Program budget is reviewed annually in order to respond to the fluctuating needs and fiscal changes within the County. The long term budget, covering a 5 year period, has no legal significance, nor does it commit the County to a particular expenditure in a particular year or over any specific time period.

AIRPORT

The Culpeper Regional Airport has undergone substantial changes within the last five years. The runway has been lengthened to 5,000 feet which opens many new business opportunities. The C.I.P. for FY 05 – 09 includes further apron expansion, hanger development, archeological study, and perhaps most importantly, the development of a new terminal facility. Extension of water and sewer lines to additional areas of the Airport is also contemplated.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

The C.I.P. includes numerous projects related to maintenance of County Buildings. Space needs for County Administrative Offices and Courts are becoming critical. Although only in the early planning stages, the County must anticipate the need for a new government center in the foreseeable future. Another substantial item in this category is library expansion and/or development of a branch library, most likely in the northern area of the County.

EDUCATION

School infrastructure needs are the most substantial portion of the C.I.P. The FY05 – 09

C.I.P. includes a new high school, renovation of the existing high school, a new elementary school, and renovation of Pearl Sample Elementary School. In addition to these needs, there are numerous maintenance and upgrade projects requested throughout the school system. The projects requested from FY05 through FY09 exceed 86 million dollars.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES

Information technology is critical at this time. In order to do business efficiently, and to provide the best possible service to Culpeper County citizens, technology must be utilized and must remain current. As such, the C.I.P. includes projects such as network expansion, system upgrades, and the development and implementation of an “E-Commerce” system.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Parks and Recreation facilities are becoming a critical need as County population rises. The FY05 – 09 C.I.P. includes development of a bike trail system at Laurel Valley, further development of the existing Spilman Park near Clevenger’s Corner and development of a major youth sports facility which is underway, known as the Culpeper Community Complex.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Public Safety items in the FY05 – 09 C.I.P. include several communication system upgrades. A major item identified is the need for a new jail facility. It should be noted that a brand new, state-of-the-art Emergency Operations Center is currently under construction. Additional public safety projects will most likely come to the forefront in the near future.

PUBLIC WORKS – LANDFILL

Culpeper County closed its landfill in November 1998 and opened a solid waste transfer station at the same location. The FY05 – 09 C.I.P. includes ongoing environmental remediation required as a result as a result of the old landfill. The C.I.P. also includes the development of convenience centers, which are drop-off locations for trash which would then be collected and transported to the solid waste transfer station.

The C.I.P. does not currently include plans for a second full service solid waste transfer station. However, based upon the rapid increase in waste stream experienced since 2000, this is a likely future project.

PUBLIC WORKS – ROADS

Culpeper County maintains numerous road projects within the C.I.P. Projects in the C.I.P. are supported by Chapter 8 of this Plan. The majority of projects identified are

funded utilizing the VDOT Revenue Sharing Program which provides the County with up to \$500,000 per year in state funds, which match County funds dollar for dollar.

PUBLIC WORKS – WATER AND SANITARY SEWER

The C.I.P. includes a single line item which is ongoing. It provides C.I.P. funds for the continued implementation of the Culpeper County Master Water and Sewer Plan.

SUMMARY

The C.I.P. includes an array of County capital needs. The Plan is updated every year and will serve as the basis for a County proffer guideline policy. The items of major expense and consequence which are either currently in the C.I.P., or are anticipated to be added, are as follows:

- New Airport Terminal Facility
- New County Administrative Offices / Courts
- New Library Expansion / Branch Library
- New School Facilities
 - High School
 - Elementary School
 - Renovation of Culpeper County High School
 - Renovation of Pearl Sample Elementary School
- New Parks
- New Jail Facilities
- New Solid Waste Transfer Station
- New Road Construction (based upon Transportation Plan)
- Fire and Rescue Training Facility



13.A: CULPEPER COUNTY POTENTIAL MAJOR CAPITAL FACILITIES

- 1 - LIBRARY
- 2 - SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITY
- 3 - SCHOOL SITE(S)
- 4 - LAUREL VALLEY BIKE TRAILS
- 5 - PARK SITE
- 6 - AIRPORT TERMINAL
- 7 - SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITY
- 8 - COMMUNITY COMPLEX/SCHOOL SITE/
POTENTIAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
- 9 - SEWAGE TREATMENT FACILITY
- 10 - SOLID WASTE TRANSFER SITE

